

NOV 30 1955

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP70-00058R000100030022-3

CPYRIGHT

(h. 3-1
X-300. Russia +
W.S.

On the Line:

People ... Places ... Things

By BOB CONSIDINE

REAR ADM. H. G. RICKOVER, USN, the man who fought the atomic submarine through the shoals of old-line Navy resistance and accumulated ignorance, produced what he called an "unpleasant fact" in a speech the other day. He said:

"In the field of scientific and engineering education our main competitor—Russia—is speedily passing us. The U. S. now has about 800,000 engineers and scientists, Russia 650,000. In 1954 she graduated more than 50,000 engineers and scientists; we graduated 23,000. Mr. Allen Dulles has stated that between 1950 and 1960 Soviet Russia will have graduated 1,200,000 scientists and engineers, compared with 900,000 in the U. S. in our present program..."

* * *

ONE OF THE REASONS Lewis L. Strauss of the Atomic Energy Commission gave for brusquely rejecting Commissioner Tom Murray's proposal for an H-bomb test for all the world to see was this: the Bikini tests of 1946 (which were witnessed by two Russian scientists) "appear to have spurred them in their nuclear weapons program."

The Russians had been working on the bomb since 1943 with the help of their own physicists, captured German scientists, and the contributions of Dr. Alan Nunn May, Klaus Fuchs, the Rosenbergs, etc. Bikini couldn't have meant much, one way or the other.

In fact, one of the Red scientists was such a boob that he walked out of a demonstration of the University of California's cyclotron because some joker around the lab had chalked "Big Bertha" on one of the machine's pipes. The Red said, "Ah, I KNEW it was a war-making device."

* * *